



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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Mr. Douglas Dulaney, Director
Department of Veteran Affairs - Veterans Health Administration
Office of Occupational Safety, Health and GEMS Programs
1101 First St. NE, 7th Floor
Washington DC, 20002

Dear Mr. Dulaney:

The purpose of this letter is to ensure close coordination between the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in meeting our key Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) and Superfund performance measures. Specifically, the Environmental Indicators (EIs): Human Exposure (HE) and Groundwater Migration (GM). EPA has been reporting on EIs since the early 1990's. The GM and HE measures were added to the list of EIs in 2001 to show the incremental progress towards protection of human health and the environment through the elimination of unacceptable human exposure and prevention of groundwater migration.

The President's FY 2018 budget for the Federal Facility Superfund program prioritizes the highest risk sites and focuses on activities that bring human exposure and groundwater migration under control. EPA tracks EIs and other accomplishments at all Superfund sites, including federal facility National Priorities List (NPL) sites, to report to Congress on how effectively our program meets EPA's core mission on an annual basis. We appreciate the VA's continued efforts to work with EPA to ensure that we are accurately reflecting our progress towards the protection of human health and the environment. Below is a status update on the Environmental Indicators at VA NPL sites.

Human Exposure

EPA considers a site to have Human Exposure Under Control (HEUC) when the site is fully characterized and any complete exposure pathways are controlled with engineering or institutional controls.

Groundwater Migration

EPA considers a site to have Groundwater Migration Under Control (GMUC) when all site plumes are fully characterized, stable, and do not discharge contamination into surface water bodies at concentrations that would cause unacceptable impact on surface water, sediments, or ecosystems.

Status Update

Based on 2016 data, 700 South 1600 East PCE Plume (UT0981548985) has not achieved HEUC or GMUC status. This site has been identified as having insufficient data to make a determination for these EIs because there are incomplete remedial investigations.

These measures help determine progress in achieving protection of human health and the environment at NPL sites, and also inform Congress on such progress in accordance with the GPRA. Achievement of these measures requires successful coordination between EPA and the VA. I ask that your organization work with our regional office and the Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office (FFRRO) to achieve GMUC at the 700 South 1600 East PCE Plume in a timely manner, and that we work together to communicate the achievement of these measures as a joint success. For questions, please feel free to contact me or Emerald Laija of my staff at laija.emerikd@epa.gov or (202) 564-2724.

Sincerely,



Charlotte Bertrand, Director
Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office

cc: Greg Gervais, EPA
Betsy Smidinger, EPA
Rob Stites, EPA R8